

TWO WEDDINGS.

The society reporter looked over the assignments for the day and found that she must attend a brilliant church wedding on the north side.

"And, by the way," said the city editor as she started out, "here is a card announcing a wedding on Blank street. Better look in and see what it amounts to."

The reporter made her way to the beautiful church where the fashionable wedding was to be solemnized. A gay swing extended from the graven portal to the street, and under it, as the carriage drove up, beautiful women trailed their shimmering silken garments over the velvet carpet up to the cool and twilight haunted vestibule. Within the church the air was redolent with the breath of flowers. It was a "white wedding," and from the roses that wreathed the entrance to the tall ascension lilies that stood like angel sentinels before the altar all was snowy purity. The place was hushed and hung with purple shadows. All at once a strain of music rode down upon the light, and the house was filled with a glad Deum. Then there was a rustling of silken robes, a sound of sweet, tremulous voices, and in the silence that fell for a moment as the bride paused under the garlanded arch of fluted stone the organ found a soul, and burst into song. The reporter's keen eye missed no detail of the stately scene.

The music changed. Triumphant now and clear it rose in waves of grandest melody. The wife walked down the aisle leaning upon her husband's arm. A smile wreathed her mouth, but did not reach her eyes. She lifted her white lilies wearily, and for a moment her glance met the newspaper woman's gaze. The reporter looked over her hat again. "Let me see," she said reflectively, "I have that other wedding. I'll run over there now and then hurry back to the office. This affair is worth a half column. I must write it all—except the look in the eyes of the bride. The world must not read that."

When she was in the hall of the large apartment building that she had been directed to, the reporter thought she had made a mistake. She turned to the dusty elevator boy:

"Is there to be a wedding here tonight?" she asked.

"You bet there is!" he responded enthusiastically. "The neighbors have been carrying up chairs and dishes all day. Keeps me hustling too, I tell you. Wouldn't you like to go up and see Joe?" The brass buttoned young man questioned cordially.

"He's fixing things up in great shape—flowers and everything the swell has. Tell you, there's only a few of us!" And he indulged in some "staps" on the shaky floor of the lift.

"Are you a member of the family?" she asked as she stepped into the car.

"Well, I ain't just exactly a relation," he replied, "but I takes 'em up on down nights an' mornin's—him to the sixth an' her to the eighth—an' I've ketches 'em spoonin a good deal, an' now I'm goin to see 'em through. That's the door, second to the right."

The door was opened by a young man. He was in his shirt sleeves. The long strings of a gingham apron were passed twice around his waist and tied in front, and an old straw hat was tipped well back on the blond curls of his handsome head. The reporter made known her errand.

"Come right in," he said, with hearty cordiality. "Things ain't just shipshape, but I'll soon have 'em so. These are Nettie's rooms, and we're going to be married here, so I'm trimming them up a bit. I wish you was here to talk with you, but she had to carry home a dress that she's been making, and then she'll stop and buy herself a bridal veil. That's her picture on the mantel." He stepped over and pointed it out with frank pride.

She looked at the picture of the little dressmaker as then turned to watch the young lover as he decorated the tiny room. He had purchased a dozen roses from the florist around the corner, and the woods and fields had yielded the rest of the flowers for that day of days.

"What is your pretty bride going to wear?" she asked as the guests certain transforming touches about the room.

"White muslin, I suppose!" He looked up anxiously.

"Ought she to wear that?" he asked simply. "She hasn't any one but me to advise her, you know, and I told her it didn't matter, so she fixed this one over. I think it was once her mother's." And he opened a tiny wardrobe and took down a neatly fashioned but sadly faded pink organdie, very evidently a relic of other days.

"She looks so pretty in it," he said fondly, "as fresh and sweet as the pink rose," and he laid the blossom gently down upon the soft folds of the dainty garment.

A loud knock at the door was followed immediately by the appearance of the cheerful features of the elevator boy.

"Here's a box for Miss Nettie," he said. "Cover full off, as I was comin up 'bout anybody touchin it. Scrum flowers, I tell you!"

The open box disclosed a lovely bouquet of bride roses and feathery maidenhair ferns. The young man lifted the long satins ribbons that tied the stems in his rough, brown hands, a cloud dimming for the first time, the perfect happiness of his eyes. He laid them down, and going into the next room returned with a tiny bunch of lilies of the valley.

"These are the flowers I got for her," he said. "They're the best I could afford. Do you think she'll be satisfied a moment—do you think she will carry mine—or his?"

The reporter felt a little ache in her throat. She went up to the picture on the mantel and looked at it very earnestly, and then turning to the young man said, with a smile of perfect confidence:

"I think she will wear yours." And she did. And the wedding in the little flat was happier than the other wedding in the Fifth avenue church.—New York Press.

Eugenie's Aid to Carnot.

It is not generally known that it was owing to the gracious intervention of the Empress Eugenie that M. Sadi Carnot saved the country from the fate of the future. He had, in university language, been "plowed" in his examinations for the Ecole Polytechnique at the end of his two years of school work, and under those circumstances he ought to have been left. However, his father had the idea of appealing to the empress to come and see her son a third year.

She promised to use her influence. The emperor, on the other hand, did not wish to create a precedent which would perhaps be made use of by all the lazy students who failed in their examinations. The empress did not give up her efforts, and finally gained the day by pointing out that a favor to a family which considered almost an enemy would make a very good impression. M. Sadi Carnot received his third year's tuition, and succeeded in passing in his subjects became a full fledged engineer.—London Figaro.

LIKED HIS PREACHING.

He Had Heard Him Often and So Enjoyed His Sermon.

A bald featured man, dressed in a new suit of very cheap black, called at the house of a well known clergyman, and upon giving his name was invited to take a seat in the gentleman's study.

"I have a few days to spend in town," said the visitor, "and I did not want to leave without calling and paying my respects to you. I have heard you preach many a time."

"Yes," said the parson, beginning to take an interest in the visitor.

"I like your preaching, and though I do not belong to your church, yet I must say you preach the best sermon I ever heard. There are so very few good preachers now, very few in whose uprightness we can place trust, that when we meet one of the right kind we like to express our appreciation."

"Yes," the good man repeated, and as the bell tinkled he rose and said, "Come, my friend, and take some lunch with me."

The visitor was only too happy, and seated at the table began to eat with an avidity that attracted the host's attention.

"You say that you have heard me preach many a time?" remarked the minister.

"Oh, yes," the man replied, conveying an ample allowance of mashed potatoes into his mouth.

"I don't remember seeing you at my church. I suppose you have heard me in the country?"

"No," said the visitor, helping himself to beans, "not in the country."

"Content not in town?"

"Well, sorter yes and sorter not. You know you preached at the prison for some time. I was there for stealing a horse and cart and finished my time today. Thank you for the bread."—Pittsburg Dispatch.

Growth of the Hair.

The hair is not like plants. It is nothing more than unobscured threads of skin, or rather papilla, as they are called, which grow in their proper places under the same conditions as the nails on the finger ends.

The hair papilla do not lie on the surface of the skin, but are sunk more or less deeply into it—more deeply as the hair is longer, so that long hairs adhere in a deep sac. The number of these hair papilla of course varies considerably with different people, but for each individual is constant and unchangeable and cannot be increased any more than the number of one's finger nails. The number of hairs depends on the papilla; consequently if there are no papilla there can be no hair. Moreover, the number of these papilla is constant, so that the idea of increasing their number by clipping the hair must be abandoned.

The growth of the hair depends rather on the well being of all the papilla, but they are constituent parts of skin and share its fate alike in both good and evil days.—Chautauquan.

The Wasp Wasted Woman.

On corsets humanity is tired of speaking its mind. No sensible man likes a woman with a waist like a wasp or as hourglass nor is comfortable in the society of a girl whose form suggests that he may at any moment have to apply a knife to her stay laces. Such incidents have actually occurred. But it is not to please sensible men that many girls dress. Where does a tight laced beauty's dress go? is a topic on which science has not pronounced.—London News.

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